

From: WordPress <wordpress@npf.ie>
Sent: 26 October 2017 14:32
To: National Planning Framework
Subject: Ireland 2040 Submission from Gwen Fearon
Attachments: national-planning-framework-2020.docx

Name: Gwen
Surname: Fearon

Message:
Drogheda - City Status - Include Drogheda in the Plan 2020-2040

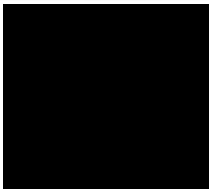
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National Planning Framework 2020 – 2040

Drogheda – To be awarded City Status

Gwen Fearon



26/10/2017

I was very disappointed to see the town of Drogheda being omitted from the new government plan 2020 -2040.

Drogheda is online to reaching a population of City Status within the very near future.

It is a thriving town with a growing number of schools, businesses and foreign investment. New houses are being built as we speak to house the growing population.

We have some of the oldest attractions in Ireland, a growing tourism market and retail sector.

Drogheda is 20 minutes away from Dublin airport, and 20 minutes away from Newry , 40 minutes from Belfast International Airport. We are on the corridor for international investment from foreign companies, especially with Brexit – International headquarters will be re located and Drogheda is in prime position to facilitate many.

We need to be recognised as a City to facilitate new infrastructure, both in rail & roads to reach Drogheda's full potential.

We have one of the largest Art Festivals in the country Drogheda Arts Festival and a huge arts culture – from music festivals to the Fleagh Cheoil na hEireann 2018.

It is imperative that the government revisits this plan for OUR future, if the towns on Drogheda's outskirts were included in the population census we should be awarded City status. I live in such a village and rely on Drogheda 5 miles away on all the services it provides from banking, shopping & entertainment as do the other 10,000 in similar villages.

I also own a cafe in the town so you can understand my frustration with the lack of government planning to include Drogheda so we can improve our transport services from surrounding villages, parking spaces for both cars & tourism buses, extra rail links etc.

Drogheda has a thriving community and great voluntary organisations, we deserve to be included in the new plan and not overlooked.

I hope you will take my comments onboard as a tax paying citizen, an employer and also a proud Drogheda resident.

Regards

Gwen Fearon